

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-04

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS STATE 247990

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC, KS

SUBJECT: FY-77 ALLOCATION

REF: A) STATE 224658; B) SEOUL 7730

1. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NON-GRANT PROGRAM COSTS FOR KAEC CONTINUE INCREASE EACH YEAR AND REPRESENT INCREASINGLY LARGE PROPORTION OVERALL COSTS. DEPT FEELS ALL-OUT EFFORT IS REQUIRED TO BRING THESE COSTS DOWN WHEREVER POSSIBLE AND HOLD THE LINE ON OTHERS.

2. REQUEST POST AND KAEC EXAMINE CAREFULLY, AND IN LIGHT OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURES LAST YEAR, EACH CATEGORY OF SERVICES BUDGETED, E.G. OBJECT CLASSIFICATION 256: OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES.

3. KAEC MUST BEAR IN MIND THAT ITS REQUEST FOR ALMOST 84 THOUSAND DOLLARS IN OPERATING COSTS AND 37 THOUSAND FOR NON-GRANT EXPENSES IS BASED ON AN OVERALL PROPOSED PROGRAM OF DOLS 481 THOUSAND. IN REALITY, THE TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR KAEC IS ONLY 307,310. WITH SUCH A SIGNIFICANT RE-

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DUCTION FROM ORIGINALLY PROPOSED PROGRAM, IT FOLLOWS

THAT ADMIN COSTS SHOULD COME DOWN CONSIDERABLY MORE THAN
PROPOSED IN REF B.

4. PARA C OF REF A REQUESTS BOTH PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICA-
TION FOR CUTS IN KAEC PROGRAM IF INCREASE IN ADMIN COSTS
NEEDED. REF B GIVES PROPOSAL FOR CUTTING PROGRAM BUT
DOES NOT JUSTIFY. WE REALIZE THAT CERTAIN COST FACTORS
ARE BEYOND YOUR CONTROL BUT WISH ASSURANCES THAT EVERY
POSSIBLE EFFORT BEING MADE KEEP OPERATING COSTS DOWN. ROBINSON

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